



New Applications and Challenges in X-Ray Tomography

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Computational Imaging @ CWI





- headed by Joost Batenburg, 18 members
- mathematics, computer science & (medical) physics
- advanced computational techniques for 3D imaging
- one of the two main developers of the ASTRA Toolbox
- FleX-ray Lab: custom-made, fully-automated X-ray CT scanner linked to large-scale computing hardware
- (inter-)national collaborations from science, industry & medicine

Image Reconstruction Challenges

more from more:

- higher & higher resolution 3D imaging
- spectral/dynamic imaging
- phase/diffraction/scattering contrast

same from less:

• low-dose, limited view

break the routine:

- real-time 3D imaging
- explorative/adaptive 3D imaging
- X-ray optics









Traditional 3D X-Ray Imaging Work-flow

scan first

compute 3D image later

visualize/analyze even later



Real-Time 3D Imaging Work-flow

scan quickly / continuously

compute 3D image in real-time

analyze/visualize immediately



Sliced Visualizations

3D volumes are often visualized using a slicer



Can we reconstruct arbitrary slices to create the "illusion of having a full 3D volume"?



The RECAST3D workflow

RECAST 3D



- implemented at PSI, at TOMCAT beam line
- https://github.com/cicwi/RECAST3D
- **Buurlage, Kohr, Palenstijn, Batenburg, 2018.** Real-time quasi-3D tomographic reconstruction, *Meas. Sci. Technol.*.

ASTRA Toolbox: HPC Building Blocs for CT

- open source software, developed by CWI and Univ. Antwerp
- provides scalable, high-performance GPU primitives for tomography
- flexible with respect to projection geometry
- back-end in ODL, TomoPy and others
- next major release autumn 2019: BIG data sets



www.astra-toolbox.com

4 Waves of Image Reconstruction





Ravishankar, Ye, Fessler, 2019. Image Reconstruction: From Sparsity to Data-adaptive Methods and Machine Learning, *arXiv:1904.02816 ! graphic not from the paper !.*

Early Ideas: Neuronal Network FBP

FBP is 1D data filter followed by backprojection: $\hat{x}_{FBP} = A^*(f * y)$ NN-FBP: non-linear combi of FBP for different filters f_i



learn convolution filters and weights from training data



Pelt, Batenburg, 2013. Fast Tomographic Reconstruction from Limited Data Using Artificial Neural Networks, *IEEE Image Processing*, 22 (12).

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✓ comp. efficient ✓ few trainable parameters ✓ lot's of training data
Pelt, Batenburg, 2013. Fast Tomographic Reconstruction from Limited

Data Using Artificial Neural Networks, IEEE Image Processing, 22 (12).

Going 3D: NN-FDK

circular cone beam scanning: Feldkamp-Davis-Kress (FDK) algorithm



phantoms, size: 1024³, watch out for



Lagerwerf et al., 2019. Neural Network Feldkamp-Davis-Kress algorithm, *in preparation.*

>

Going 3D: NN-FDK

circular cone beam scanning: Feldkamp-Davis-Kress (FDK) algorithm



SIRT+, 200 iterations

FDK, with Hann filter



limited angle scenario

>

Deep Learning in Image Reconstruction



Ravishankar, Ye, Fessler, 2019. Image Reconstruction: From Sparsity to Data-adaptive Methods and Machine Learning, arXiv:1904.02816.

Mixed-Scale Dense Nets for Postprocessing



2560x2560 tomography images of fiber composite. *Left*: 1024 projections, *middle/right*: 128 projections

Pelt, Sethian, 2018. Mixed-scale dense network for image analysis, PNAS 115 (2) 254-259.



Pelt, Batenburg, Sethian, 2018. Improving Tomographic Reconstruction from Limited Data Using Mixed-Scale Dense Convolutional Neural Networks, *Journal of Imaging 4 (11), 128.*

for algorithm development?

- $\checkmark\,$ lot's of large, open, bench-mark data collections for standard applications of deep learning (e.g., MNIST)
 - few suitable imaging data sets (e.g., fastMRI)
 - ! hardly any suitable projection data sets for X-ray CT
- ! ! clinical data sets are extra hard to get

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for real applications?

FleX-ray Lab @ CWI



- custom-built (by XRE nv), fully-automated, highly flexible
- linked to large-scale computing hardware
- Aim: Proof-of-concept experiments directly accessible to mathematicians and computer scientists.

CBCT Data Collection for Machine Learning



42 Walnuts:

- natural inter-population variability
- hard shell, a softer inside, air filled cavities
- variety of large-to-fine-scale features
- proxy for human head details
- 42 3D samples = a lot of 2D data

- three different source orbits
- cone angles comparable to dental / head imaging
- 1200 projections per orbit
- 768 \times 972 pixels (size 150nm).



CBCT Data Collection for Machine Learning



we provide

- this (and other) data sets on zenodo.org, community "CI-CWI"
- MATLAB and Python scripts for reading, pre-processing and image reconstruction on github.com/cicwi/WalnutReconstructionCodes



Cone Beam in Action

Public Private Partnership with Planmeca

- CBCT increasingly important in clinical applications
- artifacts impair usability compared to conventional CT
- most tedious and time-consuming task in many medical imaging pipelines: **segmentation**
- most challenging: training data acquisition



On-the-Fly Machine Learning for Unique Objects



Improve resolution on single object CT reconstruction

- with same scanner
- with limited increase in computation and scan time
- Hendriksen, Pelt, Hendriksen, Palenstijn, Coban, Batenburg, 2019. On-the-Fly Machine Learning for Improving Image Resolution in Tomography, Appl. Sci. 2019., 9, 2445

image sources: Saadatfar et al, 2009; Ketcham et al, 2001

On-the-Fly Resolution Improvement Pipeline



X-Ray Scan of Dynamic Object



- canonical example of temperature-driven two-phase flow instability
- + 120 projections per rotation \rightarrow each projection averaged over 3°
- 40ms exposure per projection \rightarrow 4.8s per rotation

X-Ray Scan of Dynamic Object



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reconstruct image sequence x and motion fields v as

$$\min_{x,v} \sum_{t} \|W_t x_t - p_t\|_2^2 + \mathcal{J}(x_t) + \mathcal{M}(x,v) + \mathcal{H}(v)$$

- data discrepancy
- motion model (PDE)

- spatial assumptions on image
- spatial assumptions on motion

numerical optimization

- alternate between image reconstruction and motion estimation
- image reconstruction convex but non-smooth primal-dual ("Chambolle-Pock"), augmented Lagrangian ("ADMM")
- motion estimation difficult, **non-convex**, **non-smooth** multi-resolution schemes (pyramids) with linearizations

Lava Lamp: Spatio-Temporal Reconstruction



Lava Lamp: Image and Motion Estimation



Collaboration with the Transport Phenomena group at TU Delft.



! fast but extremely sparse angle acquisition !

X-Ray Lightfield Imaging



X-Ray Lightfield Imaging



X-Ray Lightfield Imaging: Results



Viganò, Coban, Lucka, van Liere, Batenburg, 2019. X-ray light-field imaging, *in preparation.*

High-Throughput Foreign Object Detection with Spectral CT



Experimental setup

Meat Samples

- template for many industry applications
- low quality data, high throughput

High-Throughput Foreign Object Detection with Spectral CT



- template for many industry applications
- low quality data, high throughput

Summary & Outlook

- tomographic image reconstruction will always keep us busy :
 - higher & higher resolutions
 - dynamic / spectral imaging
 - multidimensional tomography
- HPC & machine learning can help us to keep up
- new workflows need to be developed
- deep learning for scientific/clinical applications?
 - small training data sizes
 - over-fitting
 - translation is not trivial
 - getting training data for real applications is hard work

References

- Pelt et al., 2013. Fast Tomographic Reconstruction from Limited Data Using Artificial Neural Networks, *IEEE Image Processing*, 22 (12).
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- Hendriksen et al., 2019. On-the-Fly Machine Learning for Improving Image Resolution in Tomography, *Appl. Sci. 2019.*, 9, 2445
 - **Lucka et al., 2019.** Dynamic Tomography of Rapid Deformations with Sequential Scanning, *in preparation*.

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Lucka et al., 2018. Enhancing Compressed Sensing Photoacoustic Tomography by Simultaneous Motion Estimation, *SIAM Imaging Sciences 11 (4)*.



Viganò et al., 2019. X-ray light-field imaging, in preparation.

Thanks for your attention!

- Pelt et al., 2013. Fast Tomographic Reconstruction from Limited Data Using Artificial Neural Networks, IEEE Image Processing, 22 (12).
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